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DEPARTMENT OF STATE Z4591

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TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : CROMIE

FROM ADDITIONAL VIEWER/EDITOR

DATE: November 14, 1962

SUBJECT: Letter from Earl Russell to Publisher of "The Sun," Vancouver.

REF

Following is the text of a recent letter from Earl RUSSELL to Donald Crome, publisher of "The Sun," on the current international situation. The letter, which was reported in "The Sun" of November 14, 1962, was in response to a telegram from Mr. Crome asking for Russell's views on the Cuban crisis.

"Dear Mr. Crome: Thank you for your cable. I am sorry not to have answered it prior to now, but I have been overwhelmed with work in relation to the Cuban crisis.

"My views with regard to the crisis are that the behaviour of Khrushchev provides evidence that the Soviet Union does desire an end to the cold war.

"I think we can see this most clearly if we would consider the result of a blockade of Formosa, Quemoy or Matsu by the Chinese or Russian government, accompanied by a threat of nuclear war if the missiles located there were not immediately dismantled.

"President Kennedy would not have had the courage to have done what Premier Khrushchev did with regard to Cuba, in my view.

"I think, therefore, that the opportunity which now is open to us all is entirely dependent on American awareness of the fact that it is the Russians who have provided evidence of their willingness to take great steps under difficult circumstances, and that it is now incumbent on President Kennedy to consider the right of his government to maintain missile bases around the perimeter of the Soviet Union.

AFLiflet:sws

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From Vancouver, B.C.  
November 14, 1962

WESTERN FRONT

"If you are anxious about bases in Cuba, bases which are intolerable, as are all nuclear bases, then you must be honest enough to consider how the Soviet Union feels and how the Chinese feel about bases which have surrounded them for many years."

"I believe that the responsibility of the newspapers is to alter the climate of fanaticism, to cease considering the Soviets as devils, and to hope that, unless a way is found quickly to end the cold war, we are all likely to be exterminated."

"The average man should take it as an imperative moral duty upon his conscience to oppose policies of genocide, whether of East or of West, and to insist upon sincere and serious effort to prevent the unnecessary conflict between the two great powers."

Hayden Rasmussen  
United States Consul General